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This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.

TRADE REQUEST **FOR** CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

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Address to: Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Application Number	10/629,570
Filing Date	July 30, 2003
First Named Inventor	Atsushi Nishio
Art Unit	2833
Examiner Name	Hammon Briggitte R
Attorney Docket Number	02410338aa

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114 Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final а. 🔲 Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on ii. 🔲 Other **b**. ⊠ **Enclosed** \boxtimes Amendment/Reply iii. 🔲 Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) iv. 🔲 Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) Other Miscellaneous a.

☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required) b. Other Fees The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed. a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to 50-2041 Deposit Account No. RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e) 12/28/2004 EABUBAK1 00000092 10629570 ii. Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)
Other Deficiencies 01 FC:1801 790.00 OP iii. 🖎 Other □ Check in the amount of \$ 790 enclosed C. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed) WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED Michael E. Whithaun Name (Print / Type) Registration No. (Attorney / Agent) 32,635 Signature **December 27, 2004** Date

Signature Date This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing the burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or facsimile transmitted to